

FILED**11/11/2022**THOMAS G. BRUTON
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURTUNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

WAYNE TOWNSEND

CASE NUMBER: 1:22-cr-00591

UNDER SEAL**CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about June 25, 2022, at Chicago, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

Title 21, United States Code, Section
841(a)(1)

Offense Description

did knowingly possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, namely, a quantity of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl (N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl] propanamide), a Schedule II Controlled Substance, and heroin, a Schedule I Controlled Substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1)

This criminal complaint is based upon these facts:

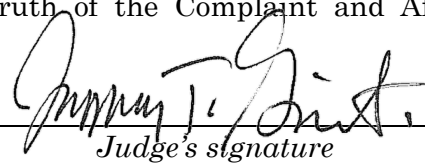
 X Continued on the attached sheet.

Daniel Alaimo

DANIEL ALAIMO

Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1, this Complaint is presented by reliable electronic means. The above-named agent provided a sworn statement attesting to the truth of the Complaint and Affidavit by telephone.

Date: November 11, 2022


Judge's signature

City and state: Chicago, IllinoisJEFFREY T. GILBERT, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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AFFIDAVIT

I, DANIEL ALAIMO, being duly sworn, state as follows:

1. I am an officer with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and have been so employed for approximately five years. My current responsibilities include the investigation of narcotics trafficking offenses. Prior to working as an officer with the VA, I was employed for approximately eleven years with the Village of Addison Police. While services as an officer with the Addison Police Department, I was assigned to the DuPage Metropolitan Enforcement Group (DUMEG) for approximately four years, where my duties include the investigation of felony narcotics offenses and the investigation of assets held by narcotics dealers. Prior to working at the Village of Addison Police Department, I was employed as a Deputy United States Marshal for the Southern District of Arizona. In total, I have participated in over 900 narcotics investigations.

2. As such, I am familiar with methods used by narcotics traffickers to transport, store, and distribute narcotics and narcotics proceeds. I have participated in investigations involving various drug types, including heroin, cocaine, and cocaine base in the form of crack cocaine. I have experience with a range of investigative techniques, including visual and electronic surveillance; the interception of wire communications; the debriefing of witnesses, informants, and others who have knowledge of the distribution and transportation of controlled

substances; the execution of search and arrest warrants; and the management and use of informants.

3. This affidavit is submitted in support of a criminal complaint alleging that WAYNE TOWNSEND has violated Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1). Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause in support of a criminal complaint charging TOWNSEND with possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance, namely, a quantity of fentanyl and a quantity of heroin, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1), I have not included each and every fact known to me concerning this investigation. I have set forth only the facts that I believe are necessary to establish probable cause to believe that the defendant committed the offense alleged in the complaint.

4. This affidavit is based on the following: (a) information provided to me by other law enforcement officers, including my review of reports made by other law enforcement officers; (b) my review of field-test analysis; (c) interviews with witnesses and TOWNSEND; and (e) my training and experience, as well as the training and experience of other law enforcement officers with whom I have consulted.

FACTS ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

Summary

5. As described further below, on or about June 25, 2022, law enforcement officials identified a vehicle registered to TOWNSEND parked in the

parking lot of the Jesse Brown Veterans Administration Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois (the “VA Medical Center”). Law enforcement officials observed drug paraphernalia inside the vehicle. TOWNSEND provided consent to search the vehicle and law enforcement officials recovered drug paraphernalia including a clear straw, which was covered in fentanyl and heroin, and approximately \$1,000 in cash from the vehicle. Law enforcement officials then searched TOWNSEND and recovered approximately 9 baggies containing a white powdery substance, which field-tested positive for the presence of heroin and fentanyl. Law enforcement officials later interviewed TOWNSEND, who confirmed that he knew that the baggies on his person contained heroin and acknowledged that he distributed heroin to individuals at the VA Medical Center.

**June 25, 2022 Seizure of Narcotics and Narcotics Proceeds from
TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND’s Vehicle**

6. On or about June 25, 2022, at approximately 9:30 a.m., a pedestrian notified a law enforcement official about a black Kia vehicle (the “Kia”) parked on the first floor of the VA Medical Center parking lot, which the individual said had an open door.

7. A law enforcement official approached the Kia in the VA Medical Center parking lot and observed that the driver’s side door was ajar. The law enforcement official also observed, in plain view through the driver’s side window, a clear straw with gray powder residue inside of it in the center console area of the Kia.

8. Law enforcement officials ran the license plate of the Kia through the Illinois Secretary of State database and determined that the vehicle was registered to “Wayne Townsend.” Law enforcement officials remained in the area of the Kia.

9. At approximately 10 a.m., TOWNSEND¹ and Individual A approached the Kia. Law enforcement officials identified themselves and TOWNSEND identified himself. Law enforcement officials requested consent to search the Kia and TOWNSEND provided oral consent. Your affiant told TOWNSEND that he could revoke his consent to search at any time and he did not revoke his consent.

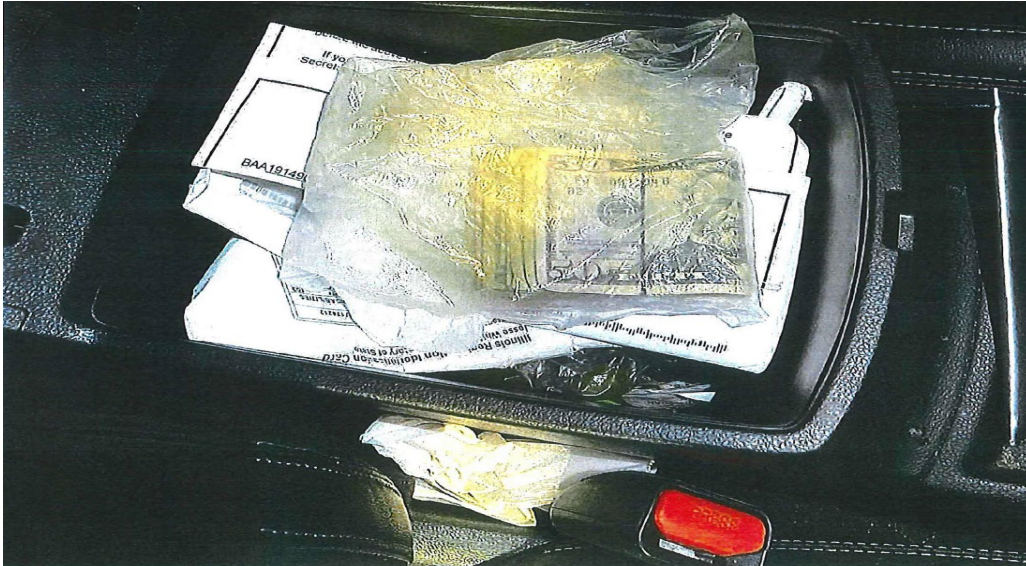
10. During a search of the Kia, law enforcement officials recovered, among other things from the center console area of the vehicle:

a. An approximately three-inch clear straw with powdery residue inside of it. Law enforcement officials field-tested the powder inside the straw and it tested positive for the presence of fentanyl and heroin.

b. Approximately \$1,000 from the center console of the Kia, which was in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$50.

11. A photograph of the money and other items in the center console of the Kia is included below.

¹ Law enforcement officials identified TOWNSEND as follows: first, TOWNSEND identified himself by name on or about June 25, 2022. Second, upon his arrest, law enforcement officials seized from TOWNSEND an Illinois driver’s license in the name of “Wayne Townsend” and determined that the photograph depicted the individual whom they encountered on June 25, 2022. Third, as discussed below, law enforcement officials later interviewed the individual they encountered on June 25, 2022, and he initialed the *Miranda* waiver “WT” [WAYNE TOWNSEND] and signed it in his name (“Wayne Townsend”). Fourth, TOWNSEND later completed a voluntary witness statement acknowledging his narcotics trafficking, which he signed in his own name.

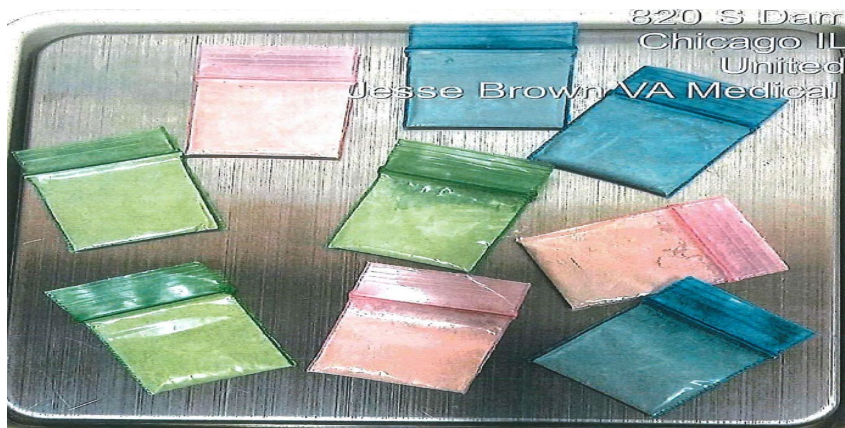


12. Photographs of the straw and the residue from the straw left in the center console area of the Kia are included below.





13. Following the search of the Kia and recovery of the drug paraphernalia and suspected narcotics proceeds, law enforcement officials arrested TOWNSEND and searched him incident to arrest. During the search of TOWNSEND, law enforcement officials recovered approximately \$200 in cash from his pocket and approximately nine baggies containing a white powdery substance from TOWNSEND's left front pants pocket. The baggies were blue, pink, and green in color. The baggies are depicted below.



14. The powder inside the bags was field-tested and tested positive for the presence of fentanyl and heroin.

Interview with TOWNSEND

15. On or about June 25, 2022, at approximately 10:20 a.m., your affiant conducted an unrecorded interview with TOWNSEND. Before the interview, TOWNSEND identified himself by name, initialed a *Miranda* waiver, and checked “Yes” that he understood each of the rights and wished to answer questions. During the interview, TOWNSEND provided the following information:

a. The baggies that law enforcement officials recovered from him during the search contained heroin.

b. TOWNSEND had a heroin addiction and began selling heroin last year. TOWNSEND sold heroin to approximately ten customers at the VA Medical Center who were all veterans.

c. TOWNSEND picked up his narcotics customers in the Kia and drove them around to facilitate his sale of narcotics. TOWNSEND would then drop the narcotics customers off at a different location.

d. TOWNSEND charged \$10 per baggie of heroin or \$100 for 13 baggies (a jab).

e. The \$1,000 recovered from TOWNSEND’s vehicle constituted narcotics proceeds from his sale of heroin to narcotics customers at the VA Medical Center. TOWNSEND said that the \$200 recovered from his pocket was personal money.

16. After the interview, TOWNSEND completed a written voluntary witness statement confirming the information that he provided during the interview. TOWNSEND initialed the voluntary witness statement.

CONCLUSION

17. Based on the above information, there is probable cause to believe that, on or about June 25, 2022, at Chicago, in the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, WAYNE TOWNSEND knowingly possessed with intent to distribute a controlled substance, namely, a quantity of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl (N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl] propenamide), a Schedule II Controlled Substance, and a quantity of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of heroin, a Schedule I Controlled Substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1).

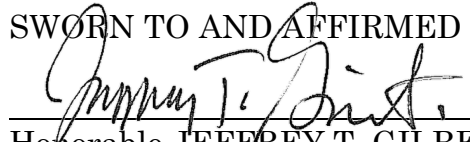
FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Daniel Alaimo

DANIEL ALAIMO

Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

SWORN TO AND AFFIRMED by telephone November 11, 2022.



Honorable JEFFREY T. GILBERT
United States Magistrate Judge